



# Department of State

# TELEGR

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AM: N780009-0401

**EXCISE**

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV: G MATTHEWS:GM  
APPROVED BY S/RS: M D SHULMAN  
NSC:RBATHOLOMEW (INFO)  
H: B ATWOOD  
ARA: V VAKY  
S/S: F WISNER  
S/S-O: SYALARGA

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INFO USINT HAVANA IMMEDIATE  
WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE 0000

**S E C R E T** STATE 290640

**NODIS**

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, UR, US, CU

**SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO SOVIETS ON MIG-23'S IN CUBA**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY <u>J.L. SMITH</u>	DATE <u>NOV 3 0 1984</u>
<b>CLASSIFICATION EXTENDED</b>	
EXTENSION DATE <u>OADR</u>	
BY <u>W.H. J. BURKE</u>	REASON(S) <u>CDC MEMO</u>
EXISTING MARKINGS <input type="checkbox"/> <u>5/13/83</u>	
DECLASSIFIED <input type="checkbox"/> RELEASABLE <input type="checkbox"/>	
RELEASE DENIED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>IN PART</u>	
FOI EXEMPTIONS <u>B-1</u>	

<b>NODIS REVIEW</b>	
Cat. A - Caption removed;	
transferred to O/FADRC	
Cat. B - Transferred to O/FADRC	
with additional access	
controlled by S/S	
Cat. C - Caption and custody	
retained by S/S	
Reviewed by: <u>[Signature]</u>	
Date: <u>11 Feb 1984</u>	

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A-5

B-1  
A-5

B-1 A-5

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A-5

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2. FOLLOWING IS CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE (ON IF  
ASKED BASIS) PREPARED FOR NOVEMBER 15 NOON PRESS  
BRIEFING:

Q. WOULD YOU COMMENT ON THE REPORT THAT THERE ARE MIG-23  
AIRCRAFT IN CUBA?

A. A LIMITED NUMBER OF THESE AIRCRAFT ARE NOW IN CUBA  
AND WE HAVE HAD THIS MATTER UNDER ACTIVE INVESTIGATION  
AND CAREFUL STUDY FOR SOME TIME.

Q. WHEN DID WE FIRST BECOME AWARE OF THE PRESENCE OF  
THE MIG-23'S IN CUBA?

A. WE HAVE BEEN AWARE OF THIS MATTER FOR SOME TIME. AS  
YOU KNOW, THIS IS A MATTER INVOLVING OUR INTELLIGENCE  
COLLECTION CAPABILITIES AND WE DO NOT COMMENT ON  
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INTELLIGENCE MATTERS.

Q. DO WE CONSIDER THE PRESENCE OF THESE AIRCRAFT IN  
CUBA A VIOLATION OF THE 1962 UNDERSTANDING WITH THE  
SOVIET UNION?

A. WE ARE ACTIVELY PURSUING THIS MATTER TO DEVELOP THE  
FACTUAL SITUATION. WE REGARD WITH THE UTMOST SERIOUSNESS  
UNDERSTANDINGS OF THIS CHARACTER WITH THE SOVIET UNION  
AS WELL AS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES. THEREFORE, THIS IS A

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QUESTION WE ARE CAREFULLY INVESTIGATING.

Q. ARE THE MIG-23'S NUCLEAR-CAPABLE?

A. AS I HAVE SAID, WE ARE PURSUING THE MATTER ACTIVELY TO DEVELOP THE FACTS.

Q. WILL THIS HAVE AN EFFECT ON THE SALT NEGOTIATIONS?

A. WE SEE NO REASON WHY IT SHOULD HAVE AN EFFECT ON THE NEGOTIATIONS.

Q. WILL IT HAVE AN EFFECT ON U.S. RELATIONS WITH CUBA?

A. THIS IS A MATTER WHICH WILL BE DETERMINED AS PART OF OUR INVESTIGATION OF THE OVERALL QUESTION.

Q. HAVE WE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THE SOVIETS ABOUT OUR CONCERN OVER THEIR SENDING THESE AIRCRAFT TO CUBA?

A. I HAVE NO COMMENT ON THIS POINT. I CAN ONLY SAY THAT WE ARE MONITORING THE SITUATION CLOSELY.

Q. HAVE WE TAKEN IT UP WITH CUBA?

A. NO COMMENT.

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Q. HAS THE CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP BEEN BRIEFED?

A. (TAKE IT).

3. YOU ARE RECEIVING BY SEPTTEL A NOVEMBER 15 COLUMN BY EVANS AND NOVAK WHICH GIVES A SENSATIONALIZED ACCOUNT OF THE MIG-23 AIRCRAFT IN CUBA.

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